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I propose a law that should provide that on and after some given date, say January 1, 1900, only the men and the *women* of a certain standard of intelligence, *native* born or *twenty-one years* resident in the United States, should be allowed to vote. That would not directly disfranchise anybody. It would simply permit the *lazy* ignorant to disfranchise themselves. If with five or ten years' notice a man did not qualify himself according to the requirements of the statute, he ought to have neither part nor lot in shaping the affairs of government. Only intelligence can govern wisely and well.

From such a law I should have great hope. It would guarantee to every one the right of suffrage who was worthy of it, and remove the motive to resort to the shotgun, or methods of violence and intimidation. With the rights of such men it would not be safe to interfere, whatever their color. Moreover, it could give our nation the best and only effectual defence it can have,—the defence of intelligent and patriotic manhood and *womanhood*. Once the question was asked, "Where are the *walls* of Sparta?" Proudly came the answer, "Its people; and every man a battlement!" With the proper adaptation, that is true in America to-day. Every man who knows why he votes, for what he votes, and the meaning of the institutions and offices to which his vote relates is a battlement against encroachments on our rights and liberties. Observe that I put woman on entire equality with man in this duty and privilege of citizenship. The State owes its children an education and must require its children to be educated. The State must be absolutely intolerant of ignorance. With such citizenship its defence will be absolutely impregnable. Otherwise it has no defence, though its navies and armaments were on the most gigantic scale. We are only assailable from within.

Another of the works of darkness or intemperance that we must put off is

SIN,

the corruptions and degradations of impurity. Another form of the armor of light or temperance that we must put on is

RIGHTEOUSNESS,

the beautiful garments of holiness, the uplifting and ennobling influences of purity and virtue. This done our nation's defence will be rendered invincible, the battlements of our national integrity unassailable.

On the one hand our greatest foe is intemperance, as we ordinarily use the word, the vice that is closely allied to all other vices, the mother sin that spawns interminable abominations. The sin of to-day, with all its degrading influences, is fostered and stimulated by intoxicants. The wolves of wickedness have their lairs in the saloon. Alcoholics do not strengthen virtue and promote purity; they are corrupt and degrade inevitably. I do not pause to buttress these statements with facts and arguments, for no one dares to deny them; they are indisputable. Premeditated crime, deliberate sin, almost invariably fortifies itself with strong drink before the fell blow is struck or act committed. Unpremeditated wickedness is equally the prompting of brains heated and passions excited by alcohol. Not one-tenth of the sin that degrades humanity and curses man would be committed by absolute sobriety. Sobriety is calm, cool, thoughtful, considerate, conscientious. Sobriety is comparatively virtuous and pure. We should think that the

millennium had come if there was no alcohol in the land—no saloon with its open door of damnation; if no man could or would "put an enemy in his mouth to steal away his brains." It *would* be the millennium! MEN MAY CO-OPERATE to hasten the coming of such an era.

Let us have a combination of the churches of California—a great invincible temperance army. This is entirely practicable at our present stage of progress. Denominational prejudices and sectarian jealousies are rapidly disappearing. (Farewell to them and no tears!) While each may well continue to do its special church work in its own way there should be no difficulty in effecting a combination of effort for the promotion of great general purposes that concern the public welfare—the accomplishment of reforms in which all churches are equally interested, and which no church can accomplish alone. The time is ripe for such action.

How will this plan do? Let a convention be called of the pastors of all the churches in California with one lay representative from each to devise and mature a plan by which the entire energy of the Christian sentiment of the Commonwealth can be concentrated and brought to bear directly, systematically and continuously upon the temperance situation. It is scarcely supposable that such a convention would fail of elaborating a plan that the great Christian body would approve and cordially adopt. It would command the instant and hearty support of 200,000 of the most intelligent and earnest men and women in the State. That would prove to be an irresistible power. It could rapidly create the public sentiment that we must have before we can take the temperance question effectually in hand and provide and enforce the requisite legislation. Once the Church is in earnest, we shall command the sympathy and support, at least of the respectable and really influential press, with all its vast power. A decisive victory could be won in a few years. Such a movement would bear *prima facie* evidences of success, and we are told that "nothing succeeds like success." Multitudes of people are waiting only for a plan that *can* succeed and they will be instantly with it. A response would come up from every town and hamlet of the State that would make the saloon power tremble and win half the battle before a blow was struck.

This will be the grandest possible way of putting on the "armor of light." This is a work to which Christians can put their hands and turn not back. This will afford assurance of lasting peace, guarantee our nation's safety, and uplift manhood and womanhood to a divine plane.

BARON HIRSCH'S CHARITIES.

Baron Hirsch has added \$12,000,000 to the previous sums devoted to the relief of the Jews in the Austrian Empire. He now places some \$2,500,000 in the hands of J. Seligman and others in New York, the income of which is for the relief of the Russian and other poor Israelites who immigrate to America from Russia in consequence of persecution. The question how these myriads of poverty-stricken aliens can be assimilated to our institutions is hard to answer. But any relief afforded by friends abroad to the poverty, illiteracy and immorality of immigrants is gratefully welcome.

—John Dillon, of Ireland, M. P., writes Alfred H. Love, "I need hardly tell you here how much I value the sympathy and assistance of your (Peace) Association."